

The Chair Of Icelandic Language And Literature

*"A story of vision, of fused
national loyalties, and of
generosity which is unique"*

THE UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA



34714

The Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature

AT

The University of Manitoba

With the Compliments of the President
and Vice-Chancellor.

Hugh H. Sanderson

The University of Manitoba
Winnipeg
Canada

#34714

The Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature

AT

The University of Manitoba

by DR. H. H. SAUNDERSON

President, University of Manitoba

Published by

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

1961

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA
AUGUST, 1961

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ONE OF the most interesting and stimulating stories in the history of this University is that of the establishment of the Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature, endowed by the generosity and self-sacrifice of our people of Icelandic descent. The long illness and subsequent death of the former President, Dr. A. H. S. Gillson, delayed the writing of this story and it was left to me to record it. As I was not present in Winnipeg during most of the time of which I am writing, I wish to acknowledge the very great help of the many individuals who have provided me with information about that period.

The Early History

THE establishment of Icelandic communities in Manitoba in and after 1875 brought to this Province a hardy and energetic people, one of whose chief characteristics was a love of education. Even in the difficult early days, the provision of schooling was an important part of every Icelandic community. This love of education was accompanied by a natural pride in the culture and achievements of their race. Small wonder, therefore, that during the latter part of the nineteenth century, there was much discussion about establishing a school to perpetuate Icelandic culture on this continent. As early as 1884, Mr. Freeman B. Anderson, later to become the editor of the second Icelandic newspaper to be published in Winnipeg (Heimskringla, 1886)* addressed a public meeting in Winnipeg, advocating the establishment of a school for the preservation of Icelandic culture in North America (See The Winnipeg Tribune, March 30, 1951). When in 1889 the Reverend Jon Bjarnason, the editor of the Lutheran church paper "Sameiningin" was granted an honorarium of \$100 as editor, he turned this money over as the beginning of a fund for the establishment of an institution of learning under the auspices of the Icelandic Lutheran Synod.

* "Leif", the first Icelandic Newspaper, commenced publication on March 5, 1883.

In 1901, the teaching of Icelandic was commenced at Wesley College (now United College) under the Reverend F. J. Bergmann, who was paid partly by the College and partly by the Icelandic Lutheran Synod. In 1913 the Jon Bjarnason Academy, at the high school level, was established with the Reverend Runolfur Marteinsson as principal, and he also assumed teaching duties at Wesley College as a successor to the Reverend Mr. Bergmann. The teaching of Icelandic at Wesley College stopped in 1926, and the Jon Bjarnason Academy closed in 1940.

With the establishment of the Icelandic National League in 1919, discussions commenced on the policy of the League in establishing professorships* in Icelandic at centers of learning in the provinces and states where there were substantial groups of Icelanders living. In 1926, the League approved a resolution that the sum of \$100,000 be raised, the interest on which would be used to support the teaching of Icelandic. No action was taken to implement this at that time.

Two events in 1932 turned the attention of the community to this project. Dr. B. B. Jonsson gave an address to the League advocating the establishment of a "home" for Icelandic Language and Culture in the University of Manitoba. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Sigurdur Nordal, a distinguished scholar from Iceland, spoke to a group of the younger generation of Winnipeg Icelanders at the home of Mr. W. J. Lindal, later Judge Lindal, advocating the study of Icelandic in conjunction with the study of Old English. Various groups and committees met through the years but no positive action was taken. In 1935, Mr. Justice Bergman gave a stirring address at the annual Icelandic Day Celebration at Gimli commemorating the 60th anniversary of the settlement, urging all organizations and groups to join in establishing a Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba with a substantial library of Icelandic books.

Shortly after Dr. Nordal's visit, Mr. Asmundur P. Johannson began to plan a very substantial gift to the proposed Chair, provided that others would also contribute generously. Several meetings were held in his home to discuss ways and means to promote the idea of a Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba. Mr. Justice Bergman, Reverend Rognvaldur Petursson, Einar P. Jonsson, Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson, and others attended. No definite action was taken.

Mr. Magnus Hinrikson, of Churchbridge, Saskatchewan, father of the late Mrs. Lindal, who had heard Dr. Nordal's speech on the subject, bequeathed in his will the sum of \$3,000 to the proposed chair. At the discretion of the executors of his estate, the money was to be available

* Rev. Rognvaldur Petursson, D.D., "Timarit", first issue—"A Review of the Cultural and National Accomplishments of the Icelandic People in North America" 1919: p.99.



REV. JON BJARNASON,
D.D.
(1845 - 1914)



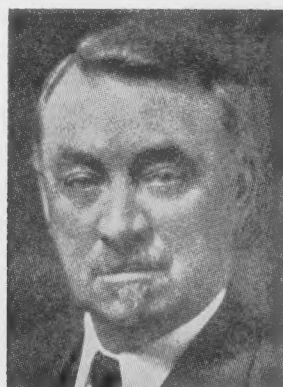
REV. RUNOLFUR
MARTEINSSON, D.D.
(1870 - 1959)



THE JON BJARNASON ACADEMY (1913-1940)



REV. F. J. BERGMANN
(1858 - 1918)



REV. ROGNVALDUR
PETURSSON, D.D.
(1877 - 1940)



Above is a reproduction of the illuminated address presented to the Rev. Einar Sturlaugsson, right (1902-1955), of Patreksfjord, Iceland, in gratitude for his generous contribution of almost 4,000 papers and periodicals to the University for its Icelandic collection.



to the University of Manitoba, if a chair of Icelandic was created, otherwise the bequest was to be sent to the University of Iceland.

In 1942, the Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba set up a committee consisting of the President, Dr. Sidney E. Smith, Mr. Justice Bergman, Mrs. H. M. Speechly, Mrs. P. H. T. Thorlakson and Mr. W. J. Parker to study the project and prepare a report.

The late Mr. Einar P. Jonsson (1880-1959), editor of the Icelandic paper "Logberg", gave tremendous support over many years to this project and was most effective in persuading his many friends to contribute to the fund. He travelled with members of the Foundation Committee on many of their trips to the various Icelandic communities.

Judge W. J. Lindal as editor of the Icelandic Canadian Magazine wrote on the subject of a "Home for Nordic Culture in the West."

The Gathering of the Funds

IN 1945, Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson made a personal gift of \$5,000 to the University in memory of his father, the late Reverend N. S. Thorlaksson of Selkirk, Manitoba. This was the first money actually donated to the University to establish the Chair. In 1945, Mr. A. P. Johansson officially confirmed his offer of 1934 of \$50,000 provided that others would jointly contribute at least an equal amount within a reasonable time. It was this generous offer which gave impetus and encouragement to the project. This became the second gift and the funds left by the late Mr. M. Hinrikson formed the third contribution deposited with the University.

Early in 1944, Mr. Justice Bergman, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University, and Mr. A. P. Johansson requested Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson to accept the responsibility of organizing a campaign to collect funds for the Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature in the University of Manitoba. After several group discussions, The Icelandic National League, The Icelandic Canadian Club, The Jon Sigurdson Chapter, Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire, The Icelandic Good Templars Society of Winnipeg, The Icelandic Celebration Committee, the two Icelandic newspapers (Logberg and Heimskringla) and representatives of the Icelandic churches, agreed to sponsor the project, which was under the auspices of a Foundation Committee consisting of Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson, chairman; Miss Margret Petursson, secretary; Judge W. J. Lindal, Mr. G. L. Johansson, Consul of Iceland, Dr. L. A. Sigurdson and Mr. A. G. Eggertson, Q.C. It was finally agreed that the objective of the campaign should be \$200,000. After consultation with the University, it was agreed that no definite steps leading to the appointment of the first incumbent of the Chair should be taken until at least \$150,000 had been deposited with the University.

The Committee also agreed that the fund should be raised on a founder basis, every person or group contributing \$1,000 or more to become a Founder. Each of the sponsoring organizations, and every member of the Foundation Committee, became a Founder and some of the activities of the sponsoring groups in raising their money gave excellent publicity to the project as a whole. For example, the members of the Jon Sigurdson Chapter, Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire, held a number of concerts at which they not only raised the money they had pledged but also stirred up very great enthusiasm among the people in the community for the proposed Chair.

One other decision of the Foundation Committee is worth noting. They agreed that, in the campaign, all of the people involved would donate their time and pay their own expenses so that the entire amount of each contribution would go directly to the University to the endowment fund. This meant that there were no deductions for campaign expenses.

Gradually there came to be recognized four categories of Founders:

- (1) **Individual Founders**—As the record will show, many individuals expressed their interest and support by making gifts of at least \$1,000 and becoming Founders.
- (2) **Organization Founders**—Every one of the sponsoring organizations became a Founder, and in addition several other organizations became Founders by raising at least the minimum Founder's gift.
- (3) **Recognition Founders**—When a group of people collectively contributed \$1,000 or more in the name of someone, living or deceased, whom they sought to honor, they established a Recognition Founder.
- (4) **Group Founders**—There were many people interested in supporting this move who were not able to become individual Founders. By joining with a number of others in a district or area, they became Group Founders.

In addition to these various categories of Founders, a number of individuals made bequests to the fund in their wills and the Government of Iceland made a series of substantial grants to support the establishment of this Chair.

The work of the Foundation Committee was greatly assisted by the visits and encouragement of the Honorable Jonas Jonsson frá Hriflu and the Honorable Thor Thors. Both these men were active in interesting the Government and the members of Althing to pass the bills authorizing the gift of a copy of every book printed in Iceland for our

Library and in making grants of nearly \$20,000. They also, in speeches and press articles, greatly advanced a mutual understanding between the two nations.

The Campaign was formally launched in the spring of 1948. By early 1949, it had made enough progress that the Committee was sure it would be a success. Something over \$100,000 had been collected and deposited with the University, and the enthusiastic support made it evident that the goal of \$200,000 could be reached. Gifts of all sizes were being made. Mrs. John David Eaton made a personal donation of \$18,000, in addition to major gifts already mentioned. The Committee then set the formal end of the campaign, by which time all regular gifts were to be in, as June 17th, 1952. That the Committee had good judgment as well as enthusiasm is clear from the fact that University records show that \$203,652.25 had been placed in trust with the University by the end of the campaign. With accumulated interest, the final amount was \$219,132.72. The list of donors is given in Appendix A.

The Agreement with the University

IN EARLY 1949, the Board of Governors of the University entered into a trust agreement with the many donors (represented by the Foundation Committee) to hold the funds then available, or to be given later, in perpetual trust, the annual income to be used to support a Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba. As it had been agreed earlier that there would be no action toward appointing the first incumbent to the new Chair until at least \$150,000 had been gathered, the trust deed made provision that if this sum weren't available by June, 1952, the amounts then deposited, with the accumulated interest, would be refunded to the donors. From the figures on the success of the campaign, it is obvious that this clause was never used.

There has been some discussion about the form of the agreement, and the place which that agreement gives to the study of Icelandic in the University. Some donors had suggested that the agreement should contain a clause that Icelandic could be used by a student to replace the normally required courses in Latin, Greek, French or German. The Foundation Committee, under the leadership of its chairman, Dr. Thorlakson, took a definite and firm stand on such requests, insisting that there should be no restrictions placed on individual gifts. This stand was both generous and wise, as universities normally refuse to make any commitment about the specific place of any subject in a university course. The actual statement of the trust deed drawn up by the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University, the late Mr. Justice

Bergman, is given in full in Appendix B: it will be seen from a careful reading of that document that the University agreed only that this new Department should be maintained "on a basis comparable in every way with that of other departments in the Humanities established in the University". In none of these departments is there any commitment about the place which its courses will occupy. As in other active universities, we find that at the University of Manitoba there are changes and modifications of requirements for the several degrees being made nearly every year.

The Establishment of the Chair

BY MARCH 1951, the campaign had resulted in donations well beyond the minimum of \$150,000 mentioned in the agreement. At a public meeting held on March 30th of that year, President Gillson announced that the University was establishing a Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature for the session 1951-52, and that active steps were being taken to select the first incumbent.

One of the first of these steps was an invitation from the University of Manitoba to Dr. Alexander Johannesson, Rector of the University of Iceland, to visit Manitoba and discuss the proper establishment of the Department. On his recommendation, Professor Finnbogi Gudmundsson, Cand. Mag. of the University of Iceland, was appointed as the first incumbent of the Chair. Professor Gudmundsson arrived in Winnipeg in November 1951 to assume his new duties. With his arrival, the long period of planning and the devoted work of the leaders of the Icelandic community to establish a Department of Icelandic at the University became an accomplished fact and this Department—product of so much self-sacrifice—took its place as a center for Icelandic studies in this country.

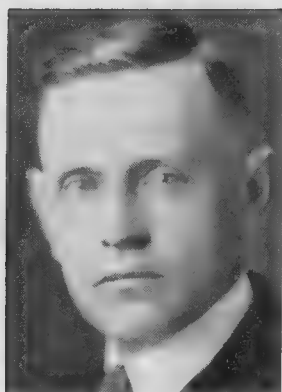
After five years of excellent service, Professor Gudmundsson decided to return to Iceland. To replace him as Head of the Department, we were fortunate to be able to attract Haraldur Bessason, also Cand. Mag. of the University of Iceland, who is the present Head of this Department.

The Icelandic Library

THE ESTABLISHMENT of a Department of Icelandic Language and Literature would not, by itself, provide the opportunity for scholarly work in this field without an adequate library. We of the University are very happy that the same type of generosity which provided funds for the Chair also provided a very substantial and effective Icelandic collection of books and periodicals. The Library now has about 10,000 volumes in this field.



A. P. JOHANNSSON
(1875 - 1953)



MR. JUSTICE H. A.
BERGMAN
(1881 - 1948)



DR. SIDNEY SMITH
(1897 - 1959)



DR. A. H. S. GILLSON
(1889 - 1954)



PROFESSOR
F. GUDMUNDSSON



PROFESSOR
H. BESSASON



Among the prized possessions of the University's Icelandic library are the desk, chair, writing set, bookcase and some of the books of the late Stephan G. Stephansson, probably the foremost Icelandic-Canadian poet. Shown above, they were given to the library by the Stephansson family in 1953 on the 100th anniversary of the poet's birth.

The nucleus of this collection was the A. B. Olson library of something over 1,300 volumes (including a few English titles), which was presented to the University of Manitoba by Mr. Olson of Winnipeg, in May 1936. Most of the Icelandic volumes are well bound in half or quarter leather, and among them are some valuable periodical sets. To his original gift, Mr. Olson made additions from time to time, chiefly of Icelandic newspapers, some of which were printed locally.

In 1940 and 1941 two small bequests were received from the estates of the late Mr. Halldor Johnson of Wynyard, Saskatchewan (88 volumes), and the late Mr. Gunnlager W. Jonsson of Texas, at one time a citizen of Manitoba (12 volumes).

The Icelandic Library was doubled in size on September 1940, when The Jon Bjarnason Academy closed its doors. Through the good offices of the Reverend Mr. R. Marteinsson, principal of the Academy, and Mr. S. W. Melsted, Secretary of the Board of Governors of the Academy, the entire library was offered to the University of Manitoba. The library contained more than 1,500 Icelandic books and periodicals as well as a few volumes printed in Danish. Other notable gifts to the library include:

Mrs. Elin Sigurdson of Gimli, Manitoba—200 volumes in memory of her husband, the late Hrolfur Sigurdson.

Mrs. Caroline Foulke Urie of Cleveland, Ohio—50 volumes, classics and rare reference books, mostly leather bound.

Mrs. Thorbjorg Jonasson of Arborg, Manitoba—300 Icelandic, 400 English—The entire collection of her late husband's library.

Mrs. A. S. Bardal of Winnipeg, Manitoba—Many volumes selected from the library of her late husband.

Mrs. W. Harpell of Winnipeg, Manitoba—A copy of the Holy Bible, printed in the early 18th century.

Mr. Asgeir Magnusson of Reykjavik, Iceland—A translation of Job's Book. It is a beautifully illustrated manuscript.

Mr. and Mrs. Emile Walters of New York, N.Y.—A number of rare reference books.

Mr. S. K. Hall of Wynyard, Saskatchewan—Music.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Johannson of Winnipeg, Manitoba—An oil painting by the eminent Icelandic artist Johannes Kjarval. This painting has been hung in the Library.

The future of The Icelandic collection has been assured since 1939 when the Icelandic Parliament passed an act by whose terms The University of Manitoba Library may receive, free, one copy of every

book and paper published in Iceland. The first shipment from an Icelandic printer was received in 1940.

In the summer of 1951, we received another very remarkable and useful gift. The Reverend Einar Sturlaugsson of Patreksfjord, Iceland, donated his collection of papers and periodicals, approximately 4,000 volumes of about 870 periodical titles, printed between 1796 and 1950. These he had been collecting for many years, having spent most of his spare time at this, travelling widely and writing hundreds of letters in order to complete his sets. In the summer of 1953, when the Icelandic Collection was moved into its new quarters in the new Library Building, Mr. Sturlaugsson was invited by the University to be present, and at that time was presented with an illuminated address in appreciation of his remarkable gift.

Among the most prized possessions of the library are the desk, chair, writing set, a bookcase and many of the books of the late Stephan G. Stephansson who is probably the foremost Icelandic-Canadian poet, and one of the major poets of his race. His fame has been recognized by the erection of a monument in his home town by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, and a park there has been named in his honour.

Over the years, a great many generous gifts have been received from our Icelandic citizens; these are too numerous to list individually, but they have helped to make our Library one of the best working libraries in the field of Icelandic literature.

Conclusion

ALTHOUGH this short account might sound as if this enthusiastic and devoted activity has reached an end, I feel that it isn't so. There are many in this community who, at the time of the major campaign, were not in a position to give as generously as they would have liked: from them we are happily continuing to receive donations or bequests to further strengthen the endowment which supports the Chair. We are also delighted that many people are finding and giving to our Icelandic Library copies of books and journals which we do not already have.

Very recently, during a visit to the University, Mr. Birgir Thorlacius (Secretary of the Department of Education of Iceland) told us that in Iceland many individuals had found in their family libraries copies of material not available in the main libraries; and donations of these



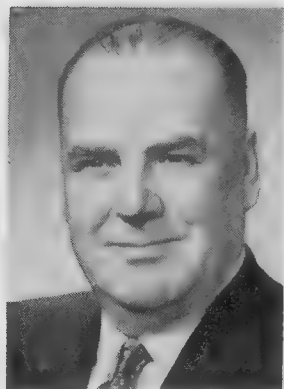
DR. P. H. T.
THORLAKSON



MISS MARGRET
PETURSSON



JUDGE W. J. LINDAL



CONSUL G. L.
JOHANNSON



A. G. EGGERTSON, Q.C.



DR. L. A. SIGURDSON



Many generous gifts have been given to the University's Icelandic library and it is being constantly expanded and increased in its usefulness as a working library in Icelandic literature. In this photograph, Miss G. Erlendsdottir, who is in charge of this library, is admiring one of the old, rare books.

rare books and journals had strengthened the central libraries quite substantially. This type of enlightened generosity we are also happily experiencing.

No account of the establishment of this Chair would be complete without a brief mention of the part played by two former Presidents, Dr. Sidney Smith and Dr. A. H. S. Gillson. The encouragement, and active support which they gave made much easier and more fruitful the work of the Committee.

That encouragement and support would have been quite ineffective, however, without the devoted and extremely active work of the Foundation Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson with Miss Margret Petursson as the tireless secretary. To them and to their associates and to all the donors, I wish to express the profound thanks of the University for making possible this outstanding development, unparalleled in my knowledge on this Continent. It is a story of vision, of fused national loyalties and of generosity which is unique.

HUGH H. SAUNDERSON, President,
The University of Manitoba.

APPENDIX A

The Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature Endowment Fund

Recorded on the following pages are the names of those men and women, groups and organizations who, through their generous donations made possible the establishment of The Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature at The University of Manitoba.

THE FOUNDERS
of
THE CHAIR OF ICELANDIC LANGUAGE
AND LITERATURE
at THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

A resolution passed by the Sponsoring Organizations at a meeting held at Winnipeg, Manitoba, on June, 1947, designated each donor who, whether individually or jointly with others as one of a group, subscribed a unit of One Thousand Dollars or over, as a Founder of The Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature at The University of Manitoba.

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Individual Founders	20
Group Founders	22
Organization Founders	33
Bequests	37
Gift From The Icelandic Althing	38

Donors:

Peter Anderson, Winnipeg	\$ 1,000
Mrs. Vilborg Anderson, Winnipeg	1,000
Peter Arnason, Tantallon, Sask	1,000
Dr. K. J. Austmann, Winnipeg	1,000
William Benidickson, M.P., Kenora, Ont.	1,000
Skuli Benjaminson, Winnipeg	1,000
Mr. Justice H. A. Bergman, Winnipeg	1,000
Kari Byron, Lundar, Man.	1,000
Mrs. Bertha Laxdal Curry, San Diego, Cal.	1,000
Mrs. John David Eaton, Toronto	18,000
In memory of her father, Frederick Stephenson	
Arni G. Eggertson, Winnipeg	1,000
Mrs. Maja Eggertson, Winnipeg	1,000
E. Grettir Eggertson, Winnipeg	1,000
Mrs. Thorey Eggertson, Winnipeg	1,000
In memory of her husband, Arni Eggertson	
Bjorn Eggertsson, Vogar, Man.	1,000
F. X. Frederickson, Edmonton	1,000
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Gilchrist, Winnipeg	2,500
Thorsteinn J. Gislason, Morden, Man.	1,000
Gudbjorn Gudmundsson, Oak Point, Man.	1,000
Pall Gudmundsson, Leslie, Sask.	1,000
Gudmundur Grimsson, Bismarck, N.D.	1,000
In memory of his parents, Steingrimur and Gudrun Jonsdottir Grimsson	
Kristjan Gudnason, San Francisco, Cal.	1,000
Walter G. Gudnason, Yarbo, Sask.	1,000
In memory of his mother, Margret Sigridur Gudnason	
Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Guttormsson, Lundar, Man.	1,000
Arni Hermanson, Leslie, Sask.	1,000
In memory of his sister, Gudny Hermanson	
Arni Herman, Leslie Sask.	1,000
In memory of his brother, Gunnar Hermanson	
T. L. Hallgrimson, Winnipeg	1,000
In memory of his son, Peter Hoffman Hallgrimson	
Haldor Haldorson, Victoria, B.C.	1,000
Dr. and Mrs. C. Houston, Yorkton, Sask.	1,000
Asmundur P. Johannson, Winnipeg	50,000
John B. Johnson, Gimli, Man.	1,000
In memory of his son, Julius B. Johnson	
Gudmundur F. Jonasson, Winnipeg	1,000
Laxdal & Thorleifson Co., Edinburgh, N.D.	1,000

Hannes J. Lindal, Los Angeles, Cal.	1,000
Judge Walter J. Lindal, Winnipeg	1,000
Stefan G. Olafson, Leslie, Sask.	1,000
In memory of his mother	
Gudni J. Oleson, Glenboro, Man.	1,000
Dr. G. Paulson, Lundar, Man.	1,000
Hannes Peturson, Winnipeg	1,000
Mrs. Holmfridur Petursson, Winnipeg	5,000
In memory of her husband, Dr. Rognvaldur Petursson	
Margret Petursson, Winnipeg	2,000
in memory of her grandparents, Petur and Margret Bjornsson and Jonas and Gudrun Kristjansson	
Margret Petursson, Winnipeg	1,000
In memory of Mrs. Gudrun Stefansson	
Olafur Petursson, Winnipeg	1,000
In memory of his brother, Bjorn Petursson	
Gunnar Saemundsson, Arborg, Man.	1,000
Skuli Sigfusson, Lundar, Man.	1,100
Halldor Sigurdson, Winnipeg	1,000
Hrolfur Sigurdson, Gimli, Man.	1,000
John F. Sigurdson, Vancouver, B.C.	1,000
J. K. Sigurdson, Baldur, Man.	1,000
In memory of his uncle, Johannes Sigurdson	
Sigurdur R. Sigurdur, Riverton, Man.	1,000
S. V. Sigurdson, Riverton	1,000
Stefan V. Sigurdson, Riverton	1,000
John B. Snyder, Crystal, N.D.	1,000
Mrs. R. L. Stephenson, Vancouver	1,000
Ellis Stoneson, San Francisco	1,000
Henry Stoneson, San Francisco	1,000
Leifur E. Summers, Vancouver	1,000
Soffonias Thorkelsson, Victoria, B.C. ..	1,000
Dr. and Mrs. P. H. T. Thorlakson, Winnipeg ..	5,000
In memory of Rev. and Mrs. N. S. Thorlaksson, Selkirk, Man.	
Hon. Joseph T. Thorson, Ottawa	1,000
Senator G. S. Thorvaldson, Winnipeg	1,000
Sveinn Thorvaldson, Riverton	1,000
Thorbergur Thorvaldson, Saskatoon	1,000
Hon. Thor Thors, Washington, D.C.	1,000
Amount contributed	\$140,600

GROUP FOUNDERS

To commemorate and honor the life and works of an esteemed colleague, friend, relative or parent, Group Founder unit donations were made to the Endowment Fund. The names of the donors of such commemorative gifts are recorded on the following pages.

In memory of the late **REV. FRIDRIK J. BERGMANN**

Donors:

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Paulson, Winnipeg; Miss Elin Thorlacius, Winnipeg; Mrs. Ethel L. Axford, Winnipeg; Jonas S. Bergmann, Gardar, N.D.; Dr. and Mrs. S. E. Bjornson, Winnipeg; Johann G. Hall, Edinburgh, N.D.; Bjorn Hallson, Winnipeg; Miss S. Jakobson, Winnipeg, Fred G. Johnson, Gardar, N.D.; Miss J. Johnson, San Marino, Cal.; Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Palsson, Gimli; Mrs. R. Petursson, Winnipeg; Miss G. Sigurdson, Winnipeg; Palmi M. Sigurdson, Boston, Mass.; Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson, Winnipeg; G. Thorleifson, Gardar, N.D.; Mrs. J. Thorpe, Winnipeg.

Amount contributed\$1,400

In memory of the late **DR. B. J. BRANDSON**

Donors:

Peter Anderson, Dr. K. J. Austmann, Mrs. H. A. Bergman, A. G. Eggertson, G. F. Jonasson, Dr. B. H. Olson, Dr. E. J. Skafel, J. J. Swanson, Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson, A. W. Wathne, all of Winnipeg..

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of **BJORN HELGASON and HALLDORA BJARNADOTTIR HELGASON**

Donors:

Jon Helgason, Bjorn Helgason, Sigurdur Helgason, Solveig Helgason, all of Hayland, Man.

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of the late **INGIMUNDUR ERIKSSON INGE**

Donors:

Mrs. I. E. Inge and Y. E. Inge, both of Foam Lake, Sask.

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of the late **GUDBJARTUR JOHNSON and GUDRUN JOHNSON**

Donors:

Dr. C. G. Johnson, Rugby, N.D.; Dr. O. W. Johnson, Rugby, N.D.; Nels G. Johnson, Bismarck, N.D.; Einar Johnson, Lakota, N.D.

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of the late MR. AND MRS. SIGMAR JOHNSON

Donors:

Dr. and Mrs. H. Sigmar, Kelso, Washington; Mr. and Mrs. John Olafson, Winnipeg; Mrs. C. Sigmar, Winnipeg; Fred Sigmar, Glenboro, Man.; Mr. and Mrs. George Sigmar, Winnipeg; Sigrun Sigmar, Winnipeg.

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of the late JOHANNES SIGURDSSON

Mrs. Thorbjorg Sigurdsson, Arborg, Man.; Valgerdur S. Sigurdsson, Arborg; Stefania Sigurdsson, Arborg; John J. Sigurdsson, Arborg; Dr. Larus A. Sigurdson, Winnipeg.

Amount contributed\$1000

In memory of the late JOHANN ELIASSON STRAUMFJORD and KRISTBJORG STRAUMFJORD

Donors:

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Amount contributed\$1000

BEQUESTS

From the estate of the late ELIN LILJA ANDERSON

the sum of\$452

From the estate of the late MAGNUS HINRIKSON

Magnus Hinrikson
Mrs. Kristin Hinrikson
Mrs. Jorunn Hinrikson Lindal

the sum of\$3,000

From the estate of the late BARNEY SKAGFELD

the sum of\$705

GIFT

FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF ICELAND

The ALTHING

*ALTHING, the Legislative Assembly of
Iceland, authorized a gift of 320,000 kronur
to the Endowment Fund.*

Gift from THE ALTHING of Iceland

320,000 kronur\$18,824

APPENDIX B

On February 15, 1949, a Trust Deed was executed by the University of Manitoba in which it was stated:—"If, on or before June 17th, 1952, the Endowment Fund shall amount to, or be of the value of, not less than \$150,000:

(a) The University shall, on or before June 17th, 1952, establish a Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature within the Faculty of Arts and Science of the University, as a Department of such Faculty, with the object of providing courses of instruction and promoting studies and research in the field of Icelandic Language and Literature.

(b) The University shall on or before June 17th, 1952, create a Professorship of Icelandic Language and Literature, and shall from time to time appoint a suitably qualified specialist in Icelandic Language and Literature, whose duties shall include the conduct and direction of such classes and courses of study in Icelandic Language and Literature as the Senate of the University may from time to time determine.

(c) The University shall maintain the said Department so far as the income of the Endowment Fund shall permit, on a basis comparable in every way with that of

other departments in the Humanities established in the University.

(d) The income of the Endowment Fund arising after the establishment of the Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature shall be applied by the University, firstly in payment of the salary of the said Professor of Icelandic Language and Literature, and secondly, so far as the same will thereunto extend and the Board of Governors of the University may in their discretion authorize, in providing such additional teaching assistance as the extent of instruction offered by the said Department may warrant, and such books, materials and library service as may be deemed by the Board of Governors of the University necessary or desirable for the purposes of the said Department.

The University shall provide opportunity to the Professor of Icelandic Language and Literature to engage in extra-mural lecturing and other extension work in Icelandic Language and Literature, to such reasonable extent as may be undertaken without interference with his normal duties, and as may be from time to time authorized by the University. The extension work may include lectures in the Province of Manitoba and elsewhere, as may be from time to time authorized by the University."

